



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Principals
Public Information Officers

FROM: Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: October 22, 2015

RE: National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant Opportunity

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announces that the 2015–17 Request for Proposals for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Equipment Assistance grant is now available online. Up to \$446,000 in funding will be distributed on a competitive basis and the deadline to apply is **December 4, 2015**.

The SCDE will award equipment assistance grants via a competitive process to eligible school food authorities (SFA) for schools participating in the NSLP that did not receive equipment assistance under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 and the Agriculture Appropriations Acts of 2010 and 2014 (rounds one or two). The primary focus area for this funding round is the purchase of equipment that improves the quality of school meals. Priority will be given to equipment requests from eligible schools in which at least 50 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Grant awards per school will range from \$15,000 to \$25,000.

The SCDE will offer a technical assistance webinar for grant applicants on **October 29 2015, from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.**, via Blackboard Collaborate. Please use this [link](#) to participate. Participants may log-in up to 30 minutes in advance of the session to test their equipment and download handouts.

Visit the [SCDE Grant Opportunities page](#) for updated information on grants, eligibility, application deadlines, and technical assistance. For more information about this NSLP program, contact Dr. Andrew Thomas at (803) 734-8194, athomas@ed.sc.gov.